

Community Uses in the Right-of-Way Pilot Project

FY 2014-15 Special Appropriation Request

The project will pilot community use improvements on four gravel streets to transform unimproved right-of-way into valuable neighborhood assets through modest investments.



Project Purpose: Implement four pilot projects to create more Complete Neighborhoods and explore the potential for community placemaking on gravel streets.

The project will result in improvements on four pilot streets and lessons will be applied to develop an ongoing process that encourages community designed, built and maintained improvements on unpaved streets across the city.

Today, there are roughly 57 miles of gravel streets citywide. Many are concentrated in neighborhoods lacking not only transportation facilities for walking, bicycling and accessing transit but also safe public places for recreation and building community.

In Fall 2013, the City partnered with Portland State University students to hold two public events and canvass door-to-door on gravel streets in Cully Neighborhood and East Portland, two areas with poor connectivity and a lack of basic infrastructure. The students found significant interest in exploring improvements on gravel streets to create community space for relaxing, playing and interacting with neighbors.

How this project contributes to Complete Neighborhoods?

The concept for this pilot project is supported by the draft Comprehensive Plan Update and the adopted Portland Plan (specific references below). Pilot sites have the potential to offer the community safe and convenient access to some needed basic services, such as:

- Recreational amenities: space to garden, play, etc.
- Public gathering spaces: places to relax, interact with neighbors, etc.
- Access improvements: soft surface/paved trails, community information, etc.

Comprehensive Plan Update (Working Draft)

6.22.d. Allow for community uses of rights-of-way

Portland Plan (2012) Action 124: Alternative Right-of-Way Projects

Implement pilot program for alternative right-of-way improvements

Tasks Requiring Funding in FY 2014-15:	\$265,000 Total
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construct four pilot sites: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Roughly \$37,500 for each pilot street ○ Assistance with grading, gravel and materials • Public engagement and pilot development: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Engage community stakeholders and neighborhoods ○ Solicitation process and site selection ○ Engage residents on candidate streets • Technical assistance: project development and permitting process <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Design and engineering assistance for pilot sites ○ Permitting assistance for pilot sites ○ Develop criteria and requirements for future replication ○ Streamlined permitting process for future implementation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Integrate existing permit processes and programs ▪ Project evaluation and lessons ○ Professional Services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Address liability insurance/indemnification ▪ Outline maintenance agreement ▪ Engage community stakeholders and property owners 	<p><i>\$150,000</i></p> <p><i>\$50,000</i></p> <p><i>\$35,000</i></p> <p><i>\$20,000</i></p> <p><i>\$10,000</i></p>

Project Timeline:

MONTHS	TASKS
July to September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public kick off: engage community stakeholders and neighborhoods • Meetings with internal and external experts • Define solicitation process and prepare application form • Initiate discussions among neighbor
October to December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Request for proposals • Proposals developed by residents on candidate streets • Proposal submission
January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review applications and select sites • Meetings with internal and external experts
February to April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engage community stakeholders and residents on candidate streets • Options for streamlining permitting process • Meetings with internal and external experts • Project development of four pilot sites • Design and engineering assistance • Final design and engineering • Permitting
May to June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Site preparation • Construction • Engage community stakeholders and residents on candidate streets • Meetings with internal and external experts • Evaluate project successes and lessons for future replication